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FOR COS FROM DCI

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING TO OUR FRIEND [ ]

"THE FIRST EFFECTIVE TREATMENT" FOR LIVER CANCER WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY BY A PROFESSOR AT THE JOHNS HOPKINS ONCOLOGY CENTER IN BALTIMORE. DR. STANLEY E. ORDER, A PROFESSOR OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY, SAID THE TREATMENT CONSISTS OF INJECTING PATIENTS WITH RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPES CHEMICALLY BONDED TO ANTIBODIES EXTRACTED FROM ANIMALS. THE ANTIBODIES ATTACH THEMSELVES TO THE CANCER CELLS AND THE RADIATION DESTROYS THE CANCER. ONE PATIENT WITH LIVER CANCER WHO WAS GIVEN THIS TREATMENT HAS SURVIVED ALMOST SEVEN YEARS, DR. ORDER SAID. THE PATIENT HAS HAD NO TREATMENT IN THREE YEARS. OF 104 PATIENTS HE HAS TREATED SINCE 1979, DR. ORDER SAID, 48 PERCENT WENT INTO REMISSION, 41 PERCENT HAD PARTIAL REMISSION AND 7 PERCENT EXPERIENCED "COMPLETE REMISSION."

2. THE ABOVE COMES FROM THIS MORNING'S WASHINGTON TIMES.

3. NO FILE. [ ] &gt;

END OF MESSAGE

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# New treatment effective against liver cancer

By Carol Innerst  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

"The first effective treatment" for liver cancer was announced yesterday by a professor at the Johns Hopkins Oncology Center in Baltimore.

Dr. Stanley E. Order, a professor of radiation oncology, said the treatment consists of injecting patients with radioactive isotopes chemically bonded to antibodies extracted from animals. The antibodies attach themselves to the cancer cells and the radiation destroys the cancer.

One patient with liver cancer who was given this treatment has survived almost seven years, Dr. Order said. The patient has had no treatment in three years.

Of 104 patients he has treated

since 1979, Dr. Order said, 48 percent went into remission, 41 percent had partial remission and 7 percent experienced "complete remission."

There's about a 15 percent remission rate in patients with cancer of the liver when they are treated with traditional chemotherapy, he said.

The treatment also has been successful with patients suffering from advanced stages of Hodgkin's disease, and it may prove applicable to other forms of cancer, said Dr. Order.

"We are looking at it in connection with lung and breast cancer," he said. "But that doesn't mean we can use it for all cancers."

Calling the antigens that cancer tumors secrete "ubiquitous," Dr. Order said "we have to learn the

rules" for dealing with them.

He said researchers don't know if the treatment could be applicable to the treatment of AIDS.

Word of the cancer breakthrough came at a press conference at the Capitol Hilton hotel held to preview "Health Care Expo '85," the first national health care exposition for both professionals and the public.

The new treatment is certain to be a highlight of the conference.

Besides being more effective in isolating and destroying cancer cells, the new treatment does not nauseate patients the way traditional chemotherapy does, Dr. Order said.

While initially patients who received the radiation treatment intravenously had to be isolated for almost a week — because of the radi-

ation risk to others — Dr. Order said he foresees the day when patients can get the lower dosage shots on an outpatient basis and "go right back to work."

He also predicts a 70 percent remission rate is achievable.

Hopkins was not selective in determining what patients would receive the experimental radiation treatment, according to Dr. Order.

"We took anybody with proven liver cancer," he said, "including one with a 15.8-pound tumor that would have been considered incurable by any standards."

The woman went into remission, he said.

Liver cancer, or hepatoma, is associated with the hepatitis virus and has been linked with certain chemicals in the oil industry, he said.